



2684.003256.

## PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Application of:**

TAKEHIKO NAKAI

Application No.: 09/960,283

Filed: September 24, 2001

**For: DIFFRACTIVE OPTICAL ELEMENT  
AND OPTICAL SYSTEM HAVING  
THE SAME**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Examiner: Leonidas Boutsikaris

Group Art Unit: 2872

January 20, 2004

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 18, 2003, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) being submitted herewith, Applicant's respectfully request that the above-identified application be amended as follows. The claim amendments are reflected in the listing that begins at page 2. The Remarks begin at page 8.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

January 20, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

**PETER G. THURLOW, Reg. No. 47,138**

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Peter G. Thaeler

**Signature**

January 20, 2004

**Date of Signature**

#### **Match and Return**